

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are all the claims pending in the application.

Statement of Substance of Interview

Please review and enter the following remarks summarizing the interview conducted on November 30, 2004. During the interview, the following was discussed:

1. Identification of claims discussed: 1-3 and 7.
2. Identification of art discussed: Shintani et al. (US 5,875,034) and Aoto et al. (US 6,515,761).
3. Identification of principal proposed amendments: Examiner indicated that amending claim 1 to describe invention more particularly would aid in prosecution of case.
4. It is respectfully submitted that the instant Statement of Substance of interview complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§1.2 and 1.133 and MPEP §713.04.

Claim Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 7, 8 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Shintani et al. (US 5,875,034) ["Shintani"]. For at least the following reasons, Applicant traverses the rejection.

Claim 1 recites an electronic still camera "wherein the first power source and the second power source are disposed in separate housings." Shintani discloses that power supply unit 109 includes DC/DC converter 200 that generates voltage E1, E2 and E3 (Fig. 2A), which allegedly correspond to the claimed first and second power sources. Even if, for the sake of argument

alone, E1, E2 and E2 did correspond to the claimed power sources, Applicant submits that these voltages are disposed in a single housing, i.e, DC/DC converter 200, not separate housings as set forth in claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable. Because claims 7, 8 and 13 depend on claim 1, Applicant submits that these claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

The Examiner has rejected claim 12 as being anticipated over Shintani in view of Suzuki (US 5,847,436) ["Suzuki"]. For at least the following reason, Applicant traverses the rejection.

Because Suzuki does not cure the deficient teachings of Shintani with respect to claim 1, Applicant submits that claim 12 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency on claim 1.

The Examiner has rejected claims 2-6, 10 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shintani in view of Aoto et al. (US 6,515,761) ["Aoto"]. For at least the following reason, Applicant traverses the rejection.

Because the Examiner has not provided any motivation to modify the single power source housing of Shintani with separate housings as set forth in claim 1, Applicants submit that these claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 1.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for maintaining the allowability of claim 9.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

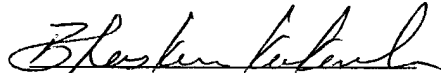
Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)
U.S. Serial No. 09/598,333

Attorney Docket No.: Q59726

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: January 3, 2005